

# Kansas AGITATOR

Devoted to the interests of  
THE MASSES.

Fearless, Aggressive, Progressive Advocate of  
All Reforms.

W. O. CHAMPE and ANNA CHAMPE Editors.

J. M. ALEXANDER, } Associate Editors.  
W. H. AMBROSE, }

SUBSCRIPTION, ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR.

N. R. P. A. } K. R. P. A.

## BRYAN AT GARNETT.

Yesterday, ex-Congressman W. J. Bryan, of Nebraska, spoke to a fair-sized audience in the city park, on the silver question. Owing to insufficient advertising, the crowd was not one-fourth of what it should and would have been had the meeting been more liberally advertised. Even in Garnett, we heard people say they had seen no announcement of the meeting, and knew nothing of it.

However, it was a very good and a very intelligent audience that greeted the speaker. A majority of the crowd was composed of Populists, supplemented by the progressive, thoughtful element of the Republican and Democratic parties and a respectable sprinkling of party Prohibitionists.

Mr. Bryan was not oratorical, but he gave evidence of being terribly in earnest. We shall not attempt to give even a synopsis of the speech, for we have not the space. It was an excellent address, however, and was well received, although the Populists did not agree with the speaker altogether.

Mr. Bryan is a Democrat, and thinks it possible to force his party to declare for the free and unlimited coinage of silver. He was fair enough to say, however, that unless his party does so declare, he will cease to vote with that party. Capt. John R. Foster, president of the First National Bank of Garnett, here spoke up and said unless the Republican party makes the same declaration, he will cease to vote with that party. Both men were honest in what they said—they doubtless meant it; and there are thousands of Democrats and Republicans who are of the same mind.

The speaker thinks the time is not yet ripe for a union of the silver men of all parties, but that the time is not far off. He paid a high tribute to the Populists, and, although their representation in congress was small, he gave them credit with causing some much-needed and very important legislation.

We may have cause to mention passages of Mr. Bryan's speech in the future, but can devote no more space to it this week. We are glad he visited our city.

## THEY WANT NO FUSION.

Following is a portion of a letter to the Farmer's Tribune, of Des Moines, Iowa, from an Alabama subscriber:

"The People's party executive committee is called to meet in this city [Birmingham] on the 24th inst. Just for what purpose it has been called the public is in profound ignorance, but it is called to further the Benman-Godwin-Altridge combine, viz.: fusion with the Republicans—that is, nominating a Republican for governor. It will simply defeat the Populists at the next state and national election in this state. Men who have deserted the Republican camp will not vote the Democratic ticket; nor will the voters who have left the Democratic party and joined the Populists vote the Republican ticket. We have them both to beat before we can get in power, and we may as well set out to beat them both from the start as to fuse with first one and then the other when both are one and the same. If our executive committee goes at such business as this, then we must turn in and abolish the executive committee and elect another committee that has some sense besides office-seeking sense. We are contending for principles as well as office—not offices alone. What good will it do the people of this country if one set of men different from the present set, but with the same principle, or no principle at all, to get the offices?—a la Democrat in and Republican out—that's all. For this reason I oppose the trading off of our principles. I believe in standing by our guns—every one, from the initiative and referendum down to the free and unlimited coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1.

"In Alabama, it is going to take more than moral suasion and a majority of the ballots actually cast to elect and seat a governor, and, therefore, the Populists will have to look to a man with the requisite amount of manhood and grit, as well as ability, to take the office after he has been fairly and squarely elected; and there is no earthly use of nominating or running any other sort. B. D. THUMATE."

## "BUSINESS REDEEMERS."

During the last campaign, the voters were assured that all Republican nominees were "business men"—men of ability. Mr. Morrill, the head of the ticket, had helped to beat home-steaders; had banked and gotten unto himself wealth; therefore, Mr. Morrill was a "business man." Mr. Morrill was a quartermaster in the army; therefore, he was a brave man. Mr. Morrill was a Sunday school man; therefore, he was a Godly man. When elected, Mr. Morrill's first act was to draw on the public treasury for money to pay a campaign bill. That was "business." Mr. Morrill, as governor, declared he could not enforce the prohibitory law unless public sentiment was behind the law—a sample of Mr. Morrill's courage. Mr. Morrill attended a Bacchanalian revel in Leavenworth, and was "one of the boys," which may be taken as an exhibition of Mr. Morrill's Godliness.

"Business," nowadays, is getting money, no matter how it is gotten.

Courage is sneaking behind public sentiment. Godliness is the gossamer web of long prayers and stereotyped exhortations.

We witness the sublime spectacle in our "redeemer" "business" officials of the people making laws through their law-makers, and choosing men to enforce laws thus made, taxing themselves to foot the bills, and then finding their work valueless, because a "business," "brave," "Godly" governor must have, in addition to law and power to enforce law, a whole lot of public sentiment.

Law is supposed to be an expression of public sentiment, and are not the people behind law?

The governor had all the prohibition sentiment and the power of the state of Kansas behind him in the enforcement of the prohibitory law the same as in other laws, but he required monster meetings and private contributions before he would so much as lift a finger to perform a sworn duty. Why? Is it not because of his ante-election promises? He promised prohibitionists to enforce the liquor law, and he promised anti-prohibitionists that he would not enforce the law. If prohibitionists were quiet, all would be well. If prohibitionists "kicked," Mr. Morrill could sneak behind "public sentiment." The kick has been provided, and Mr. Morrill is hedging.

If there were a large number of thieves, burglars and murderers, and Morrill had promised them immunity, he could have demanded a monster demonstration of "public sentiment" before using his power to restrain law-breakers along those lines of lawlessness with as much consistency as in his attitude toward the violators of the liquor law.

So much for "business." So much for "redeemers."

THE National Tribune is the soldiers' paper, but generally whoops for Wall street. Recently, it got off the old gag about there being tons and tons of silver in the government vaults; that the people will not take it. If it is a fact, as claimed, that there are piles of silver coin in the treasury, and the Tribune was as patriotic as it claims to be, it could advocate making silver coin a legal tender, and having the soldiers' pensions paid from this government store until the silver coin is placed in circulation. The Tribune lies or is uninformed. If the government has a single silver dollar lying idle, it is the fault of the government. The people generally, including soldiers, are willing to accept silver coin to any amount for which it is made legal tender. The soldier did accept as wages a dollar worth only 38 cents, and the Tribune's circulation of a Wall street lie deceives no intelligent soldier.

In the Harvey-Horr debate, Horr claimed that he had traveled, in the last few years, in thirty-seven states, and had seen no poverty such as Harvey claimed existed. Horr traveled in a Pullman car and roomed at ten-dollar-a-day hotels. Had he ridden in cattle cars, or footed it, and fed on hand-outs, his story might have been different. Horr is like the infidel or agnostic who does not believe anything he has not seen or known from personal observation: If we limit all knowledge to the little we can each acquire from our own observation, we shall die very ignorant, indeed. Horr is representative of his class, and just as heartless. Because they have not seen, and have not tried to see, they, therefore, do not and will not see—they will not believe. Blind are those who will not see.

GOLD continues to go to Europe, and the price of wheat continues to decline. If the price of wheat justified shipping it instead of gold, it might be different.—The Topeka State Journal.



DOROTHY'S DEPARTMENT.

BY DOROTHY DOLITTLE.

## ONLY A WOMAN.

ALICE DANNER JONES.

She was only a woman, with a woman's heart,  
Who patiently, lovingly, in paths apart  
From the great world, with its tumult and strife,  
Wrought out the duties of mother and wife.  
She sought neither wealth nor titles of fame,  
But, unselfishly, lived each day as it came.  
Unassuming and modest her name was not  
known,

But her power was felt by its pureness alone.

No toil for her loved ones she deemed too severe:  
She shared every sorrow, she calmed every fear.  
She brightened each joy, she lessened each pain,  
And no one in need of her, sought her in vain.  
Though heart was oft weary, she asked no  
reprieve,

So long as for others she good might achieve.

She made of her home a blissful retreat

For world-weary husband, and children's tired  
feet.

Her face was not beautiful, save with the grace  
Which a beautiful soul can fail not to trace.

Hands girlish and white grew blue-veined and  
thin,

But in labors of love they had sanctified been:  
Steps bounding and joyous grew feeble and slow,  
But they never had faltered through weal or  
through woe.

Unselfish, pure, womanly, noble and true,  
Her life held a grandeur which only God knew.

Long years passed away, then a village bell  
told;

And kisses, unanswered, was pressed on lips  
cold.

Hands, wearied at last, were folded for aye,  
Damp locks were put back from a forehead of  
clay.

Then a new grave was made 'neath flowers on  
the hill,

And the mother's heart lay all pulseless and still.  
No marble vault there, no monument tall,

But old and young said: "She cared for us all."

Her love was her life; to its altar she brought  
All her beauty of soul and the power of thought.  
As woman, wife, mother, she did what she could  
To further the weal of earth's grand brother-  
hood.

No nodding of plumes, nor of trappings so gay,  
Told of honor or fame, as they laid her away,  
But the deeds of her life were borne up above,  
And the angels of God sang an anthem of love.

Now it has been discovered to be an awful thing for women to ride a bicycle. The awful thing of working for self support is not so awful as it was. Then it is terribly awful to wear bloomers. Men can girt their pant legs with straps of steel, but the woman must ride with flowing skirts. It is all out of character for them to adapt their dress to necessities. The modern bicycle is one of the modern safeties of womanly purity. She no longer needs to jostle through a crowd of men on the street corner or in the street car. The primest little maid of this city wears bloomers, rides a bicycle and works in a printing office.—The New Republic, Lincoln Nebraska.

Rev. Young, in his Emancipation day address, said a colored man would take the bread out of the mouths of his children and give it to the Union soldier in need, so great is his gratitude; but, brother, how about your gratitude to Harriet Beecher Stowe? She did more for the emancipation of the colored race than any other individual, and yet, when she asked the colored men to help strike the shackles off the hands of her sisters, how many of you voted as she asked you to? and how many of you again were slaves—slaves to party—slaves to prejudice? How many of you voted to emancipate Kansas women last fall?

John J. Ingalls and Jerry Simpson are billed to speak in Topeka on Labor day.

Jerry Simpson will speak in Kansas City, Labor day, Sept. 2nd.

A Miss Flagler, daughter of General Flagler, of Washington, shot and killed a negro boy for stealing pears out of her garden, and the coroner's jury took the view that she had a right to forbid trespass, even at the point of the revolver. Oh, yes! but Maria Barberi, a poor sewing girl, is condemned to die because she killed the man who stole her honor.

It makes a wonderful difference in the decision of juries and courts nowadays if you have money and influence back of you. I don't believe in capital punishment at all, but if anything justifies such a thing, it is robbing a poor girl of her honor.

President Cleveland says he is "the contented and happy father of three girls." Wonder if he would be so happy if his girls were grown to womanhood and some libertine would sneak into the home circle and betray one of his girls, as he did poor Maria Halpin. Remember, Grover, "as ye sow, so shall ye also reap" is one of the inevitables, and you had better guard those girls with fear and trembling.

A new claimant to the Gould wealth has put in an appearance in the shape of a wife that Jay married when he was 17 years old and she 15 years. One child, a daughter, was born to them, and is still living, and is now on the road east to establish her claim to her property. Now what will Anna and her Count she bought do if they lose their millions?

Mrs. T. De Witt Talmage is dead. She died of nervous prostration.

BROOKLYN saloon-keepers are lectured by the Wine and Spirit Gazette for participating in a Democratic ward meeting. The liquor interest proposes to use parties, but not to be used by them. It is like Gould: Democratic in Democratic districts and Republican in Republican districts, but everywhere and always on the lookout for itself. In fact, the whole liquor business has become an essential part of the great capitalistic combine to enslave labor. The breweries form trusts, crush out competition and own the saloons in the great cities, and, whether purposely or not, the liquor business serves the plutocrats' purpose by diverting the laborer from a study of his rights and a realization of his wrongs, while at the same time it robs him of the surplus earnings he might use to make himself independent, and aids in the work of concentrating wealth in fewer and fewer hands. True, the same results might be reached in other ways if the saloon did not exist, but where it does exist, it is not only the friend and ally of capitalistic despotism, but itself an integral part of capitalism.—Star and Kansan, Independence.

The "rifle diet" for workingmen is just ahead. They must take work at the prices employers are pleased to give, starve or take hot lead. That's what the rich are in the saddle for. The future for the men who create all wealth is not as bright as a May morning. This condition would have been here years and years ago, if Uncle Sam has not had so much land that was free and good. Now there is no free land in the west and workingmen must starve where they are. And yet it is a scientific truth that every family in the United States can have a good home and live in comfort and plenty east of the Allegheny mountains if just laws were in operation in this country. Our people are beginning to taste the European conditions. It will grow worse year by year so long as one set of men are allowed to monopolize land and its products and force men by fear of starvation for themselves and families to compete with other workers, causing a continual reduction of wages and a continual enrichment of the few. Those who see this are blind to the conditions and the causes.—The Coming Nation.

THE following we clip from the Kansas notes in the Kansas City Star: "Senator Pepper never rides on a railroad or sleeping-car pass, or uses a telegraph or express frank. They are sent to him regularly, but he pays no attention to them—not even sending them back. He says when he gets back to newspaper work, he may return to the old habit, but so long as he continues to serve the public, he will pay fare."

THE Ohio Populist convention nominated J. S. Coxey for governor, and declared for state control of the liquor traffic with all profits eliminated.

IOWA Democrats declare for a single gold standard. Mississippi Democrats declare for free silver, 16 to 1.

J. A. WAYLAND, late of the Coming Nation, will start a paper at Kansas City.

COXEY will speak at Kansas City, Aug. 11th.